

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00424 291705Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /028 W
-----024282 300549Z /10

R 291603Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8263
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
USS LA MOURE COUNTY
COMICEDEFOR KEFLAVIK IC
INFO CNO WASHDC
CHINFO WASHDC
COMNAVINTCOM WASHDC
NAVSTA KEFLAVIK IC
COMFAIR KEFLAVIK IC
COMNAVICE KEFLAVIK IC
CTG EIGHT FOUR PT ONE

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0424

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCLR, IC
SUBJECT: PORT VISIT OF LST LA MOURE COUNTY

REF: REYKJAVIK 0378 (DTG 161713Z MAR 78) AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY GRATIFIED BY VISIT OF LST LA MOURE COUNTY TO
REYKJAVIK MARCH 24-26. VISIT PROVIDED EXCELLENT LOCAL REMINDER
US NAVAL PRESENCE IN THIS AREA ADDITIONAL TO THAT OF
KEFLAVIK NATO BASE.

2. WE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE EFFORTS MADE BY C.O. AND CREW TO
ALLOW FOR OPEN HOUSE WHEN REYKJAVIK VISIT WAS ULTIMATELY EXTENDED
FROM ONE TO THREE DAYS. THOUGH ICELANDERS WERE ONLY MADE AWARE
OF OEPN HOUSE THROUGH RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT THREE HOURS
BEFORE IT BEGAN, WELL OVER TWO THOUSAND VISITORS BOARD-
ED VESSEL IN FOUR HOURS THAT IT WAS OPEN. CREWMEN
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WERE COURTEOUS AND FRIENDLY, AND LOGISTICS OF OPEN HOUSE
WERE WELL-ORCHESTRATED.

3. WE BELEIVE THAT USG GOT GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS MILE-
AGE OUT OF VISIT ALTHOUGH ABSENCE OF NEWSPAPERS DURING
MARCH 23-27 EASTER HOLIDAY PERIOD LIMITED PUBLICITY.
SHIP'S ARRIVAL WAS, HOWEVER, MENTIONED ON RADIO AND

TELEVISION AND AFTERNOON DAGBLADID CARRIED SMALL ITEM AND PHOTO ON MARCH 28. AS EVIDENCED BY PUBLIC TURNOUT, VISIT WAS CLEARLY A SUCCESS NOTWITHSTANDING FOREGOING LIMITATIONS.

4. GOI WAS HIGHLY COOPERATIVE THROUGHOUT VISIT AND COORDINATION AND ARRANGMENTS MADE BY ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE PERSONNEL MUST ALSO BE COMMENDED. HIGHEST PRAISE MUST HOWEVER GO TO SHIP'S COMMAND AND CREW WHICH REFLECTED BEST TRADITIONS OF THE FLEET AND OF THE U.S. THEY LEAVE WITH OUR BEST WISHES AND THANKS.

5. FOLLOWING SUCCESS OF LA MOURE COUNTY VISIT, EMBASSY HOPES THAT FUTURE VISITS MAY BE CONSIDERED; IF SCHEDULING PERMITS.
BLAKE

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NNN

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